

CHAOS!
COMICS



3
(of 4)
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EVIL ERNIE

REVENGE!



Hughes
94
JENSEN

EVIL ERNIE

"DISPOSABLE ASSASSIN"

REVENGE!

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Illustrator **Steven Hughes**
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Centerfold **Jim Balent**

THE STORY UP UNTIL NOW

Last issue, Evil Ernie fought and destroyed CRUSH, but not without consequence. SMILEY, the psychotic button was separated from Evil Ernie and he almost "died" from it. LADY DEATH's recurring nightmares took an insidious turn. And Dr. Price believes he discovered Evil's achilles heel and is prepared to launce an all out offensive against him.

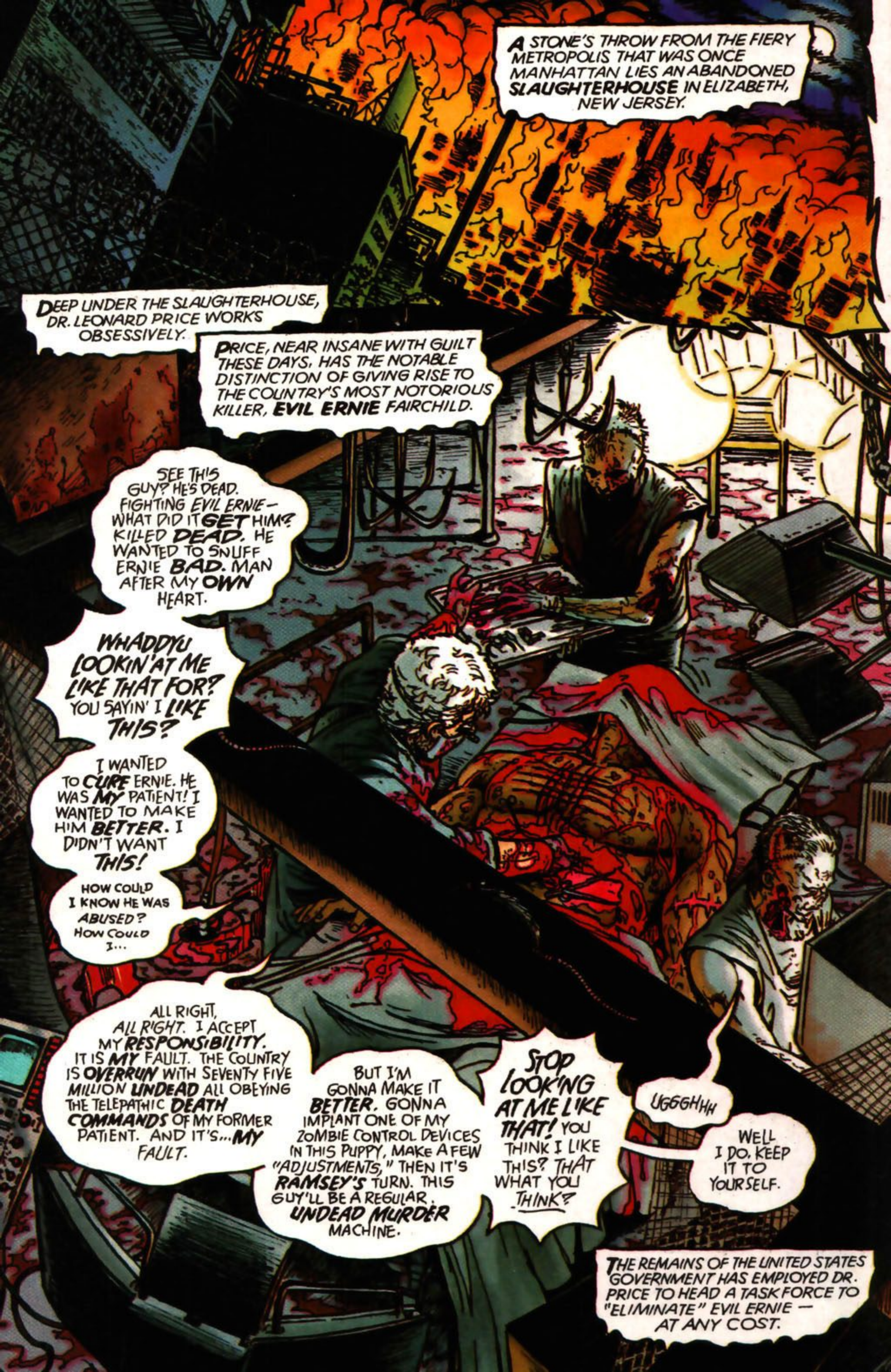
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A STONE'S THROW FROM THE FIERY METROPOLIS THAT WAS ONCE MANHATTAN LIES AN ABANDONED SLAUGHTERHOUSE IN ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY.

DEEP UNDER THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE, DR. LEONARD PRICE WORKS OBSESSIVELY.

PRICE, NEAR INSANE WITH GUILT THESE DAYS, HAS THE NOTABLE DISTINCTION OF GIVING RISE TO THE COUNTRY'S MOST NOTORIOUS KILLER, **EVIL ERNIE FAIRCHILD**.

SEE THIS GUY? HE'S DEAD. FIGHTING **EVIL ERNIE**—WHAT DID IT **GET HIM**? KILLED **DEAD**. HE WANTED TO SNUFF **ERNIE BAD**. MAN AFTER MY **OWN** HEART.

WHADDYU LOOKIN' AT ME LIKE THAT FOR? YOU SAYIN' I **LIKE THIS**?

I WANTED TO **CURE** **ERNIE**. HE WAS **MY** PATIENT! I WANTED TO MAKE HIM **BETTER**. I DIDN'T WANT **THIS**!

HOW COULD I KNOW HE WAS **ABUSED**? HOW COULD I...

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. I ACCEPT MY **RESPONSIBILITY**. IT IS **MY** FAULT. THE COUNTRY IS **OVERRUN** WITH SEVENTY FIVE MILLION **UNDEAD** ALL OBEYING THE TELEPATHIC **DEATH COMMANDS** OF MY FORMER PATIENT. AND IT'S...**MY** FAULT.

BUT I'M GONNA MAKE IT **BETTER**. GONNA IMPLANT ONE OF MY ZOMBIE CONTROL DEVICES IN THIS PUPPY, MAKE A FEW "ADJUSTMENTS," THEN IT'S **RAMSEY'S** TURN. THIS GUY'LL BE A REGULAR **UNDEAD MURDER MACHINE**.

STOP LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT! YOU THINK I LIKE THIS? THAT WHAT YOU **THINK**?

UGGGHHH

WELL I DO. KEEP IT TO YOURSELF.

THE REMAINS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS EMPLOYED DR. PRICE TO HEAD A TASK FORCE TO "ELIMINATE" **EVIL ERNIE** — AT ANY COST.

GOOD EVENING, MARY. IT *IS* EVENING, ISN'T IT? HARD TO TELL WHEN YOU'RE UP TO YOUR FOREARMS IN ENTAILS.

RAMSEY! YOU READY WITH YOUR PART OF THE PLAN?

THAT'S WHY I'M HERE, PRICE. IT'S A GO.

GOOD, GOOD. YOU AND ME, MARY. WE DISCOVERED EVIL'S WEAKNESS. ACUTE SENSITIVITY TO SOUND. WE GOT HIM *THIS* TIME.

RAMSEY, I TRUST YOUR TECHS INSTALLED THE SOUND AMPLIFIER IN THE ARMOR AS I INSTRUCTED?

RAMSEY? RAMSEY, CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?

WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING HERE? THIS IS **ABOMINABLE!** I WANT TO STOP EVIL ERNIE, SURE— BUT AT WHAT COST?

THESE ZOMBIE CONTROL EXPERIMENTS HAVE GONE **TOO FAR**. PRICE HAS LOST IT.

WE BETTER HURRY, KIDDIES. HE'LL BE COMING.

HOW CAN YOU BE SURE?

DROPPED ONE MILLION FIRE-PROOF FLYERS OVER MANHATTAN VIA HELICOPTER.

HE'LL BE HERE. HE **CAN'T** RESIST IT. I USED **US** AS BAIT, MARY. HIS GOOD OLD **DOCTORS**.



IN THE SKIES OVER
THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE,
A HELICOPTER HOVERS.

"I TOLD HIM TO
COME FOR HIS
**ANNUAL
CHECK-UP.**"

IN A CONNECTING SECTION OF THE
VAST UNDERGROUND BUNKER,
GENERAL RAMSEY PREPARES
CRUSH FOR HIS MISSION.

IF OUR
PLAN **FAILS**,
WE'LL BE **TRAPPED**
DOWN HERE WITH A
KILL-HAPPY, UNDEAD
TEEN-AGED
PSYCHOTIC.

I'VE FACED
HIM BEFORE. I
DON'T WANT
TO AGAIN.

THAT'S
IT!

TAKE
HER DOWN,
PILOT.

HE'S IN
POSITION.



Dive!
Dive!

BRACE
FOR IMPACT,
SMILEY!

AAIEEE!

MOVE
IT! MOVE
IT!

C'MON,
BRING IT
DOWN!



HA HA HA!

C'mon, boss. Let's do that again.

C'mon, c'mon.

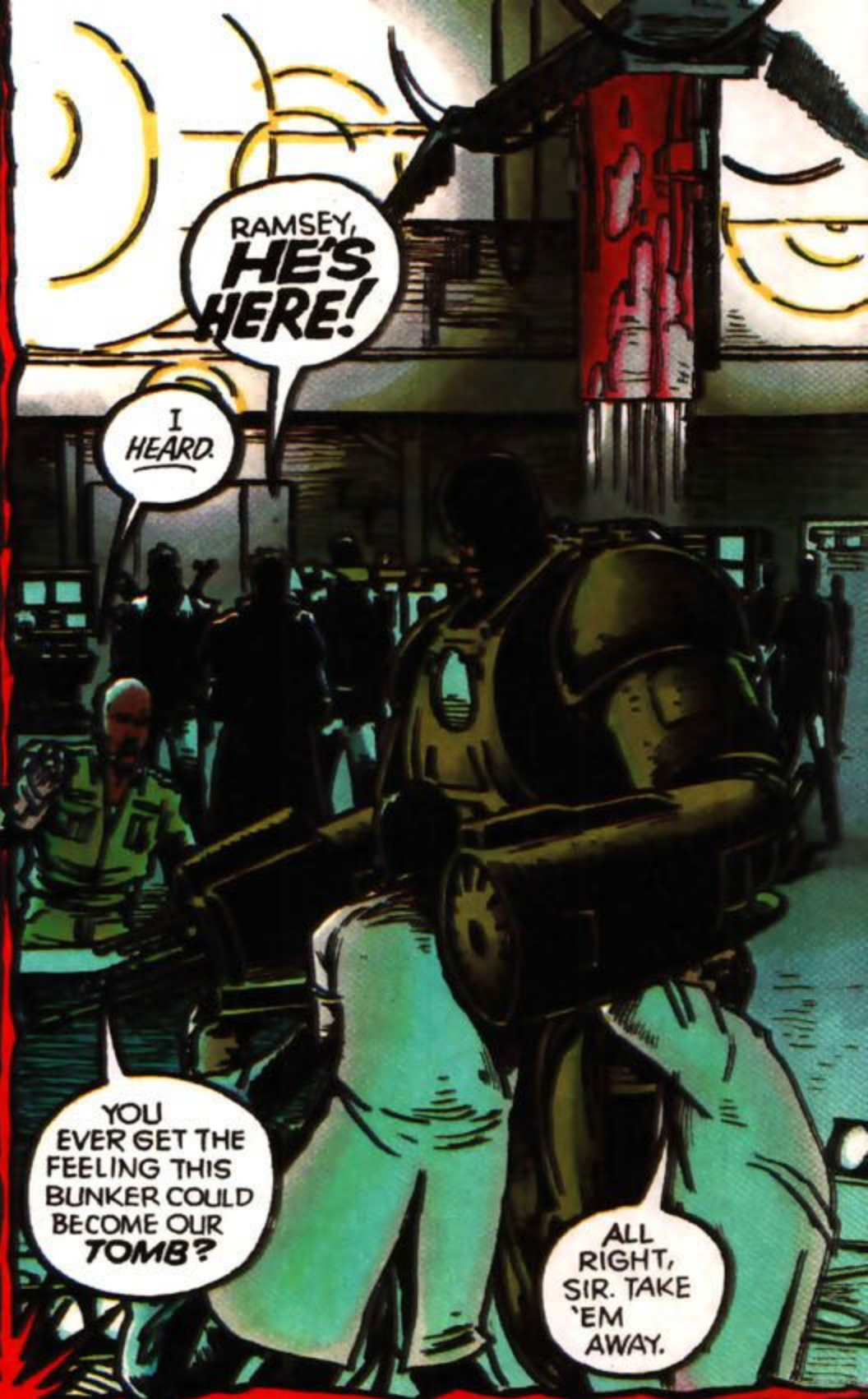


Flick
Flick

You know, *Lady Death* isn't gonna like this.

You should be spreading megadeath.

I KNOW!
I KNOW!



RAMSEY, **HE'S HERE!**

I HEARD.

YOU EVER GET THE FEELING THIS BUNKER COULD BECOME OUR **TOMB?**

ALL RIGHT, SIR. TAKE 'EM AWAY.



HE'S READY.

O LORD; BECAUSE OF my enemies, guide me in your JUSTICE; make STRAIGHT your way BEFORE me...

ALYX

THIS
LOOKS
LIKE THE
PLACE.

FRIENDS!

DEAD
ONEZ!

LET'S
PLAY!

HUH?
THEY'RE NOT
LISTENING,
SMILEY.

THAT
DON'T MAKE
SENSE. I'M KING
OF THE DEAD!
PRESIDENT OF
THE PSYCHOTIC-
STATES OF
AMERICA!

I
CONTROL
THE
DEAD!

BUT
THESE
ONES
DON'T
LISTEN!

WHO
COULDA
KILLED THE
DEAD-
ONEZ?

PRICE!

Watch
it, Evil.
This is
spooky!

THE ENDLESS GRAVEYARD.
ONCE IT WAS **HELL**.
LUCIFER RULED HERE.

HIS TIME HAS LONG SINCE
GONE. FOR OVER FOUR
HUNDRED YEARS, **SHE**
HAS RULED THIS PLACE.

TOTALLY.

ABSOLUTELY.

MERCILESSLY.
AND **WITH-**
OUT QUESTION.

HER NAME IS WHISPERED
IN THE SHADOWS. AND
FOR GOOD REASON.

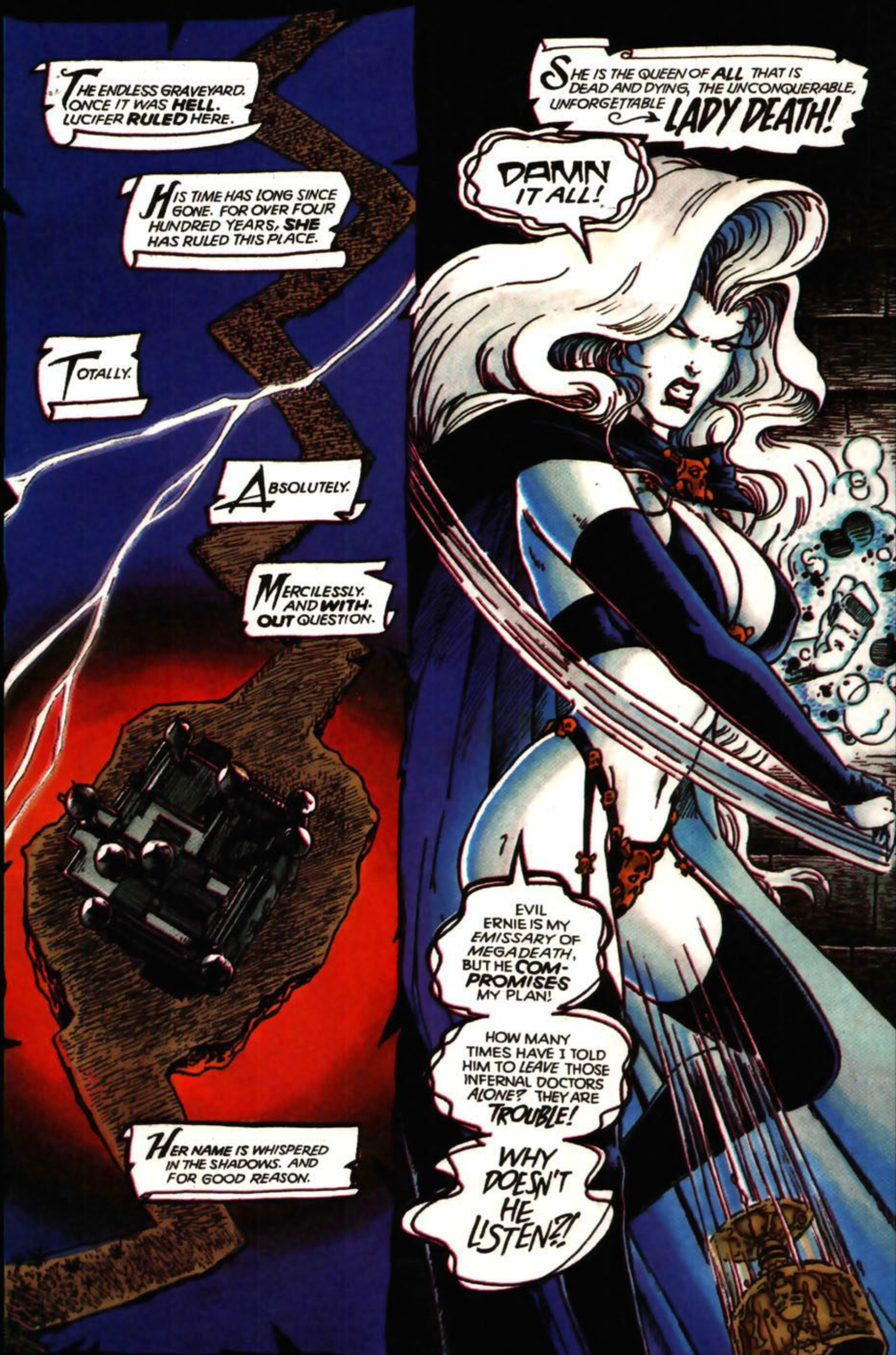
SHE IS THE QUEEN OF **ALL** THAT IS
DEAD AND DYING, THE UNCONQUERABLE,
UNFORGETTABLE **LADY DEATH!**

DAMN
IT ALL!

EVIL
ERNIE IS MY
EMISSARY OF
MEGADEATH,
BUT HE **COM-**
PROMISES
MY PLAN!

HOW MANY
TIMES HAVE I TOLD
HIM TO LEAVE THOSE
INFERNAL DOCTORS
ALONE? THEY ARE
TROUBLE!

WHY
DOESN'T
HE
LISTEN?!



KERASH

BY ALL
THAT'S *UNHOLY*—
THE MANSION!
IT SHATTERS!

AM I
CAUGHT IN
YET *ANOTHER*
NIGHT-
MARE!?



WHERE
AM I
NOW?

THE GRAVEYARD
IN FLAMES? IT
DEFIES ME! IT'S
UNFATHOMABLE!!

HOPE,
PLEASE,
HELP!

MOTHER?!
HOW CAN YOU BE
HERE? I PUT YOUR
SOUL TO REST EONS
AGO!*

IT ISN'T
SO. I'VE **NEVER**
KNOWN REST. I'VE
BEEN TRAPPED.
SHE'S KEPT ME
CAPTIVE!

WHO?

*In the story "Memory's Dark Garden"
appearing in **LADY DEATH** # 1/2 from
WIZARD PRESS.

WHO
HAS DONE
THIS,
MOTHER?
WHO?

SHE'S
GONE!
IT'S AS IF IT
NEVER
HAPPENED!

WAS THAT
MY MOTHER'S
SOUL OR IS IT
LIKE ALL THE
OTHER
APPARITIONS?

I CAN
NO LONGER
TELL WHAT IS
REAL OR
IMAGINED!

I FEEL
HELPLESS...
LIKE A CHILD.
LIKE MY FORMER
SELF. LIKE
HOPE.



PRICE IS CONVINCED THAT **SOUND** IS EVIL ERNIE'S WEAKNESS. I DON'T BUY IT. WHEN WE FOUND *NURSE GOODWILL*, SHE WAS **EAGER** TO TALK. BUT THAT **DOESN'T** MAKE SENSE.

GHOULS ARE SUPPOSED TO **OBEY** EVIL ERNIE'S PROGRAMMING THE AND KILL THE **LIVING!**

WHY CAN SHE **SUPERSEDE** EVIL'S PROGRAMMING? IS IT BECAUSE SHE WAS THE **FIRST** TO DIE?

OR IS SHE **HIDING** SOMETHING? SOMETHING THAT WE **MISSED?**

HE'S NEAR.

ENGAGE.

IS THAT GLOVE **NECESSARY** TO OPERATE THE ARMOR?

NO, THERE'S CONTROL PANELS ALL OVER THE ARMOR. AN **IDIOT** COULD OPERATE THE THING.

I JUST... **PREFER** THE REMOTE.

-HEE HEE!
IT TICKLES!



Face me
vengeful
spirit, for I
am the power
and the
glory!

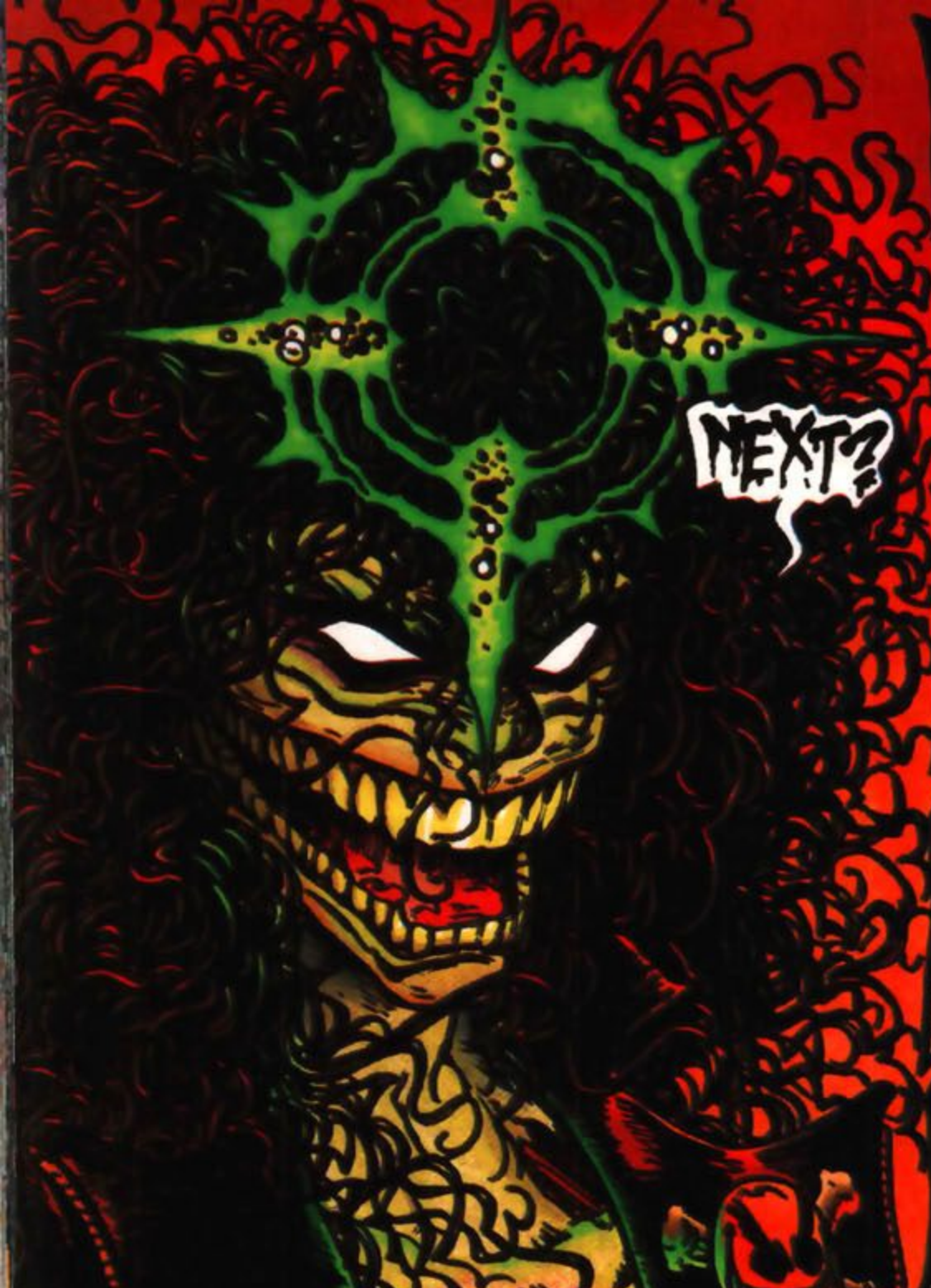
YOU
SUPPOSE
THAT'S THE
WELCOME
WAGON?
SMILEY?

Yuppers.

LET'S
MAKE
THIS
SHORT...

...AND
SWEET!

PLATE



NEXT?



WE
LOST
HIM!

WHAT
DO WE DO?
I'M *NOT*
GOING IN
THERE.

NO,
YOU'RE
NOT. *I*
AM.



ANYBODY-
HOME? WHERE
ARE THE
DOCS?



They're
always
running
late.



SOMETHING
IS **BUGGING**
ME ABOUT NURSE
GOODWILL. **CAN'T**
SHAKE IT.

SHE'S
HIDING
SOMETHING.
I KNOW
IT.

FIGURES,
IT WOULD
COME DOWN
TO THIS.

ME
AND THE
KID.

I
STARTED
IT. UP TO
ME TO
END IT.

Oh,
ERNEST...

...YOU'VE
BEEN A
BAD
BOY!



YOU
SEE, KID,
WE HAVE A
PROBLEM
AND **YOU'RE**
IT.

IT'S
UP TO ME TO
PRESCRIBE A
REMEDY.

SOUND.
YOU DON'T
LIKE IT MUCH,
DO YOU?

HOW 'BOUT
THE TENDER
VOICES OF YOUR
ABUSIVE MOTHER
AND FATHER
AMPLIFIED A
THOUSAND TIMES!?

"NO!.
NOT THAT!
ANYTHING
BUT THAT!

WE'RE
CONCERNED
ABOUT OUR
SON,
DOCTOR!

WE
ONLY
WANT THE
BEST
FOR YOU,
BOY!
WHY
CAN'T
HE SEE OUR
LOVE,
DADDY?!

ARRGH!

HE'S
WITHDRAWN.
HE'S NOT LIKE
OTHER
CHILDREN!



I CAN'T
BELIEVE IT.
IT'S **ACTUALLY**
WORKING!

I'VE
HEARD
THAT
BEFORE.

I KNEW
IT! SOUND
IS YOUR
WEAKNESS!

YOU'RE
WORTHLESS
AND **WEAK**,
ERNIE!

YOU'RE SUCH
A **DISAPPOINTMENT**,
ERNIE! ~

I'LL
BEAT
THE LOVE!
INTO HIM!

FEELIN'
PRETTY GOOD
ABOUT YOUR-
SELF, HUH,
DOC?

GOT IT
ALL FIGURED
OUT, RIGHT?
WRONG!

HA HA HAHA!
FELL RIGHT
INTO OUR
TRAP!

SOUND
DON'T BUG
ME, YOU
DO!

FOOLED
'EM, DIDN'T
WE,
SMILEY?

HEY,
DOC, YA
SPRUNG
A LEAK!

Sucker!

FSSHOOO



DEATH!

Yeah,
yeah.

YA SEE,
DOC. WE HAVE
A PROBLEM
AND YOU'RE
IT.
IT'S UP
TO ME TO
PRESCRIBE
A REMEDY.

DAMN, THE WHOLE
IDEA OF **SOUND** BEING
EVIL'S ACHILLES HEEL WAS A
PLAY. EVIL ERNIE **KNEW** PRICE
WOULD LEAP TO A **CONVENIENT**
CONCLUSION.

THEN
NURSE GOODWILL
WAS A **DECOY**. WHY
WOULD HE LEAD US
AWAY FROM GOODWILL?
ERNIE **WAS** COVERING
SOMETHING. HIS
WEAKNESS?

WAIT A MINUTE.
HE JUST SAID, "WE
FOOLED 'EM, DIDN'T
WE, SMILEY?" THE
BUTTON?

THAT WAS
THE **FIRST**
THING GOODWILL
TOLD US. SHE PINNED
THE BUTTON ON
ERNIE. THEN HE
RE-ANIMATED.

COULD
IT BE?



OPEN A
CHANNEL TO
THE ARMOR.
NOW.

CAN'T
HAVE EVIL
ERNIE HEARING
WHAT I HAVE
TO SAY.

GO!

**THE
BUTTON! PRICE,
DESTROY THE
@\$\$%\$ BUTTON!**

YOU
CAN'T GET
RID OF YOUR
FAVORITE PATIENT
THAT EASILY,
DOC.

I
NOTICED.

BUT I'M
WORKIN'
ON IT!

**THE
BUTTON!**

GOTCHA!

FWABAM

BUDDA

BUDDA

DEAR LORD —
PRICE, THE
MEN!

AAH!EE!

AAAAAA!

SPLAT

Evil,
they're onto
us! We *gotta*
get outta here!
Boss!

BOOM

CRUMBLE

KKRAAA!

DO I SENSE
FRUSTRATION?

MARY **WAS**
RIGHT. THERE'S A
CONNECTION
BETWEEN YOU AND
THE BUTTON!

AKKUUH!

NEED
SMILEY!

ACK!

CLEAR
OUT! HE
HIT A GAS
MAIN!

THE NETHERWORLD...

EVIL
ERNIE AND
SMILEY CAN'T
BE **SEPARATED!**
THE OUTCOME
COULD PROVE
FATAL!





WEAKENING
FAST WITHOUT
SMILEY!

EVAC!
PRICE HAS
FLIPPED!
EVAC!

FADING...
SMILEY...
WHERE
ARE YOU?

SORRY,
TROOPS, I
HAVE
ORDERS.

I'M PUTTIN'
EVIL ERNIE
DOWN-
FOR GOOD!



KPAT

AAAIEEE!

NOO!!

BUDDA
BUDDA
BUDDA

UGH!

SPAT

SPAT

"SMILEY"

PRICE...YOU
MADMAN.



HEY... DOC...
YOU'RE... SUPPOSED
TO BE ONE OF TH'
GOOD GUYS,
REMEMBER?
HA HA HA HA.
WHO'S... THE
LUNATIC...?
NOW?!

DON'T
PREACH TO ME,
FAIRCHILD!
DON'T YOU —

MAYBE I *DID* BLOW IT,
DIDN'T KNOW 'BOUT
YOUR FAMILY. THE ABUSE.
DIDN'T RESEARCH THE
CASE. JUMPED TO
CONCLUSIONS!

CAN'T
CHANGE
THE
PAST!

BUT I'M
DOIN' THE
RIGHT THING
NOW. SAVE THE
COUNTRY.

MAKE
THINGS
RIGHT!

SPLAT SPLAT

SPLAT

SPLAT



f#%
YOU,
DOC!

...SMILEY...



CASE
CLOSED.

NEXT: **THE PND.**